

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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****CORRECTED VERSION – CORRECTION IN BOLD****

**GOV. MIKE EASLEY'S STATEMENT REGARDING THE GOLDEN L.E.A.F. DECISION TO
FUND A BIOTECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE**

"This action by the Golden L.E.A.F. puts us on top of the wave of biotechnology," said Gov. Mike Easley. "It will place North Carolina in a prime position to corner the market on high-paying jobs.

"Their plan is designed to channel the training centers' expertise to those rural counties in transition, which fits with the biotechnology demand for a supply of agricultural products. This has the potential to translate into a real benefit, not only for tobacco dependent communities, but also for the entire state.

"I look forward to working with Golden L.E.A.F., the universities **and the community colleges** as they transform their research into real jobs."

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